



Victoria College Examinations
vcmexams.com

Drum Kit



Victoria College of Music and Drama, London

Founded 1890

71 Queen Victoria Street, LONDON EC4V 4AY
T: 020 7405 6483 E: info@vcmeams.com W: www.vcmexams.com



Governing Council:

Principal

Dr. Martin Ellerby HonDLitt DMA HonVCM FVCM GLCM LMusLCM FTCL FRSA

Chief Executive

Robin Wood HonVCM FVCM FV FISM ALAM FRSA

Qualifications Director and Head of Music

Prof Stewart Thompson, DEd, MA (Mus), BA (Hons), CT, FVCM, FV, FGSM, FMCM, FIGOC, FSCO, FCollt, ACIEA
Qualifications Director, Victoria College of Music and Drama, London
Assistant Professor of Sacred Music, Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University
Director of The J. H. Lewis English Composer Archive, London

Chief Examiner

Claire C. Pashley MBE MA BA(Hons) PGCE HonVCM FVCM LTCL ALCM(TD) FRSA AdvDip(Open)

Head of Speech & Drama

Stuart Morrison MA HonVCM FVCM(TD) (Hons) PGCE ALAM ALCM(TD) LVCMEd(Hons) FIFL FRSA

Curriculum Specialist

Dr June Fileti PhD MA(Mus) (Open), MEd BA(Hons) CT, FVCM, LMusEdASMC(Hons)

Member of



ABOUT THE VCM

Victoria College of Music, London, is an independent body providing examinations in Music, Speech, and Drama subjects. It has held examination sessions throughout the British Isles and certain overseas countries since it was founded in 1890. Further details about Victoria College can be found on our website:

www.vcmexams.com and you can follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

PASS MARKS

Introductory Grades	65% with Merit	80%; with Distinction	90%	Merit is shown as "Honours" in Ireland
Grades 1 to 8	65% with Merit	80%; with Distinction	90%	Merit is shown as "Honours" in Ireland
Medal examinations	75%			
Diplomas	75%	(85% with Honours)		

ABOUT THIS SYLLABUS

Victoria College has offered percussion examinations for many years but this new kit syllabus represents another step in the College's provision for popular instruments. While maintaining the familiar ethos and format of VCM exams the syllabus utilises the specific requirements of the instrument.

CHANGES TO SYLLABUS

VCM examination requirements do not alter annually, the current syllabus is that listed on our website.

Any changes to the syllabus are announced well in advance on the College website, on Facebook and Twitter.

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER EXAMINATION BODIES

VCM Grades 1 to 8 are intended to compare on a level for level basis with the grades 1 to 8 of other similarly recognised examination boards. In addition to Grades 1 to 8, VCM examinations are available at several introductory levels prior to Grade 1 as a means of encouraging beginners, or students with special needs. Medal and Diploma examinations are also available in all subjects. Candidates at all levels receive a written report and, if successful, a certificate or diploma.

WHICH INSTRUMENT?

- At all grades a five piece kit is the required minimum. From Grade 3 separate crash and ride cymbals should be used.
- Electronic kits may only be used with advance permission from the Qualifications Director. Flats are not permitted unless in addition to the basic kit.
- Five minutes set up time will be allowed but candidates should ensure that as much hardware is prepared in advance of the examination.

WHAT THE EXAMINERS ARE LOOKING FOR

Examiners are looking for a combination of skill, knowledge and understanding. Questions are asked in a manner which assesses the candidate's depth of understanding, not merely the ability to repeat definitions. Ingenuity, variety, musicianship, and a sense of style are rewarded, as well as technical skill and musical accuracy.

OWN COMPOSITIONS Candidates for Grades 1 to 8 may perform their own compositions in lieu of Musicianship Tests. Further guidance for Drum Kit exams is available on request from admin@vcmexams.com

REGULATIONS

All entries are accepted on the conditions laid down in *General Regulations and Information*, a copy of which is available free of charge. It is also on our website: www.vcmexams.com

ENTRY FORMS

All *grades* and *medal* examinations can be entered on white entry forms with no more than ten candidates on a page. Please use the code “**DK**” in the column headed “subject” and the letter(s) or numbers in the “grade no.” column.

QUESTIONS

Questions are based principally on the music performed; but in addition examiners are at liberty to ask questions on notes, rests, musical terms and signs, key and time-signatures, according to the Grade. Also specifically on minor keys; perfect, major, and minor intervals (Grade 3 upwards).

SIGHT READING

Sight Reading tests are included from Preparatory level upwards. The relative standard will be that of approximately two grades below the grade being taken. Examiners may discuss the Sight Reading Test with candidates as part of the Questions.

SET PIECES

Candidates are required to prepare the specified number of pieces in all examinations. In all examinations each piece being performed should be written by a different composer. Examiners may stop the candidate at any point or request repeats etc. to be omitted.

ACCOMPANISTS

Candidates are required to provide their own competent accompanist in all pieces published with accompaniment. The accompanist will remain in the room only while accompanying. Where no accompaniment is provided examiners will comment upon gaps in musical texture as appropriate. If a piece is published with CD, etc., this may be used but it is the responsibility of the candidate to provide the required equipment and be able to operate it in the exam without delay.

At Grades A-D accompaniment is encouraged **but optional**.

London Music Press (LMP) publications are available on-line post free from
www.londonmusicpress.com

They can also be ordered by post: an order form is available on request.

Some of the pieces set in the syllabus include options that are published by commercial publishers. These may be obtained on-line at sites such as www.musicroom.com or in most good music shops. Where early and pre-20th century works are prescribed the edition listed is a known available copy but other editions of the same work may be substituted if agreed in advance with the College. Second hand and out of print music can be purchased on www.amazon.co.uk or www.ebay.co.uk. Certain out of copyright pieces may be obtained for free from www.imlsp.org

Demonstrations of many set works may be found on www.youtube.com but please be aware that the quality of performance is variable.

MEDAL EXAMINATIONS

Successful candidates at medal examinations receive a certificate and a medal order form. Prices of medals are shown on the medal order form. Medals are supplied in boxes and are engraved with the candidate's name, subject of examination and the year. Medal awards do not entitle holders to put letters after their names.

MEDLEYS & OWN CHOICES

Where examination requirements include medleys or own choices, a second copy of the score must be provided for the examiner. At all levels, the examiners may penalise an option clearly chosen for its comparative ease.

ESSAYS, FOLIOS, ETC.

Where syllabuses require submission of dissertations, essays or folios, these must be submitted **at the time of entry**. Separate or late submission is not permitted. They should be emailed in Word or pdf format to entries@vcexam.com showing the candidates name and the name of the centre in the subject heading.

All dissertations should contain a bibliography and contents page. For more guidance see *Essay Writing for the Victoria College Teaching Diplomas* published by LMP and available to purchase online at www.londonmusicpress.co.uk

PHOTOCOPIES

All VCM and LMP publications are copyright. Photocopying of LMP publications is not permissible and **candidates using unauthorised photocopies at examinations will be disqualified**. It is acceptable, however, to use a photocopy for the second copy when the syllabus requires one to be handed to the examiner, provided the original is also brought to the examination. It is also acceptable to use photocopies of parts of long pieces to avoid awkward page turns, again provided the original is also brought to the examination.

EXEMPTION FROM QUESTIONS AT PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS

Candidates who have passed certain VCM Theoretical Examinations are entitled to claim full marks for questions at Practical Examinations as follows:

VCM Grade A Theory exempts up to and including Preliminary Practical

VCM Grade I Theory exempts up to and including Grade 1 Practical

VCM Grade II Theory exempts up to and including Grade 3 and JBM Practical

VCM Grade III Theory exempts up to and including Grade 5 and JSM Practical

VCM Grade IV Theory exempts up to and including Grade 7 and SM Practical

In all such cases the theory result or certificate must be produced for the Examiner at the beginning of the practical examination. Examiners do not take it amiss if reminded not to ask questions if they have been shown a qualifying Theory pass.



London Music Press
the College's own in-house publisher.

LMP exists to provide an inexpensive method for candidates to obtain set pieces and materials to prepare for examinations at economical prices.

All LMP publications are guaranteed to remain available in print for the duration of the syllabus

LMP publications are available to order on-line at
www.londonmusicpress.com

by email
editorial@londonmusicpress.com

by phone
0843 289 3638

by post
**71 Queen Victoria Street, London. EC4V 4AY,
United Kingdom**

All orders are despatched post free worldwide

Discounts for quantity.

Introductory Examinations

First Steps in Drum Kit Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DK	A

Exercises (2x10 marks).

Beginner Kit Music London Music Press

Any TWO from:

Alternate Sticking Exercise (Snare only) Kick Drum - Single Beats Exercise Closed Hi-Hat Exercise

Rudiments (10 marks)

Single Stroke Snare Roll (to be played from memory)

Solo Pieces (2x30 marks)

To play any TWO of the following pieces: *Beginner Kit Music London Music Press*

Playing Straight

March Time Time to Waltz

An own choice of comparable standard.

Questions (10 marks)

Preparatory Drum Kit Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DK	C

Exercises (2x10 marks).

Beginner Kit Music London Music Press

Any TWO from:

Double Sticking Exercise (Snare only) Kick Drum - Quaver Exercise

Closed and Open Hi-Hat Exercise

Rudiments (10 marks)

Double Stroke Snare Roll (to be played from memory)

Solo Pieces (2x25marks)

To play any TWO of the following pieces: *Beginner Kit Music London Music Press*

Straight 8ths

On Parade Mixing It Up

An own choice of comparable standard.

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

A short piece for snare and kick drum only.

Grade One Drum Kit Playing

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any three pieces, **one** from each list

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DK	A

List A

Rhythm Section Drumming Musos Publications

CORNIOLA, F.: Rhythmic Summary #1, p.9 or #2, p.13

Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern Drummer Alfred 00-17308

REED, T.: 20 bar exercise, p.11, with added hi-hat on 2 & 4

Creative Drumming Made Simple AMPD

S LATER, D.: p.14 Solo 2, with added quarter-note bass drum

Zero to Hero Sasha/AMPD

WATSON, P.: Sixteen Bar Snare Exercise, p.24;

WATSON, P.: Sixteen Bar Snare and Bass Drum Exercise, p.34

List B

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 3 Hal Leonard HL00699743

Rock You Like a Hurricane (Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)

66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02501624

HAPKE, T.: Solo No. 1

Progressive Steps to Bass Drum Technique for the Modern Drummer Alfred 00-17315

REED, T.: p.7, 9 or 11

Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern Drummer Alfred 00-17308

REED, T.: 20 bar exercise, p.13, with added hi-hat on 2 & 4

Creative Drumming Made Simple AMPD

SLATER, D.: p.6 Solos 1 and 2, played continuously as one 16-bar solo

List C

The ABC of Drumming Musos Publications

CARNOVALE, S.: 2-Bar Triplet Patterns, p.44 lines 1 to 5 played continuously, no repeats

66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02501624

HAPKE, T.: Solo 47

Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern Drummer Alfred 00-17308

REED, T.: 16 bar exercise, p.15, with added hi-hat on 2 & 4 An own choice solo from the last 25 years.

Rudiments(10 marks) Single Stroke Roll Double Stroke Roll Paradiddles

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

EITHER of the following two options a) or b) (10 marks)

a) Musicianship Tests

Test 1: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner. Test 2: To identify any note in the arpeggio C/E/G/C', Middle C being given

Test 3: To echo a five-note phrase played twice by the examiner.

b) Own composition

Perform an own composition of about 8bars based on a basic 8 beat pattern. It should be balanced as an opening 4- bar phrase which forms a "question" and a 4-bar phrase that forms an "answer".

Grade 2 Drum Kit Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	2

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play three pieces, one from each list:

List A

Rhythm Section Drumming *Musos Publications*

CORNIOLA, F.: Going Home, p.99

Drum Kit Solo Pieces *www.bcdrums.com*

CORRIN, B.: Solo 1 or 4

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 3 *Hal Leonard HL00699743*

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)

Bark at the Moon

Panama

66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer *Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02501624*

HAPKE, T.: Solo 9 or 12

Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern Drummer *Alfred 00-17308*

REED, T.: 16 bar exercise, p.17

p.19, with added hi-hat on 2 & 4

Zero to Hero *Sasha/AMPD*

WATSON, P.: Sixteen Bar Snare Exercise, p.39

or p.41; Ten Bar Snare and Bass Drum Exercise, p.40;

Sixteen Bar Snare and Bass Drum Exercise, p.53

List B

Discovering Rock Drums *Schott ED 13354*

CAMPBELL & PALMER.: pp.37–38 Return to Russia

Rhythm Section Drumming *Musos Publications*

CORNIOLA, F.: Rhythmic Summary #3

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 2 *Hal Leonard HL00699741*

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)

Mississippi Queen

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 3 *Hal Leonard HL00699743*

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)

Living After Midnight

66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer *Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02501624*

HAPKE, T.: Solo 3 or 15

New Orleans Jazz and Second Line Drumming *Alfred/Manhattan Music MMBK0043CD*

High Society

Rudiments (10 marks)

From memory

Single stroke roll; double stroke roll; single paradiddle.

Alternating flam; flam tap; flam paradiddle.

3-, 4-, 5-, 7- and 9-stroke ruffs.

3-, 5-, 7- and 9-stroke rolls.

Right or left hand start, as requested by the examiner.

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

List C

The Beatles Drum Collection *Hal Leonard HL00690402*

(Main sections, no repeats)

Can't Buy Me Love; Day Tripper; Revolution

Deep Purple Greatest Hits *Hal Leonard HL00672502*

(No repeats)

Smoke on the Water

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 3 *Hal Leonard HL00699743*

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)

Detroit Rock City

66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer *Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02501624*

HAPKE, T.: Solo 37 or 50

Metallica for Drums *Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02503509*

(Main sections, no repeats)

Sad But True

The Unforgiven

Wherever I May Roam

Progressive Steps to Bass Drum Technique for the Modern Drummer *Alfred 00-17315*

REED, T.: p.13

Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern Drummer *Alfred 00-17308*

REED, T. 20 bar exercise, p.21

or p.23, with added hi-hat on 2 & 4

New Orleans Jazz and Second Line Drumming *Alfred/Manhattan Music MMBK0043CD*

Gospel, p.31

An own choice solo from the last 25 years.

EITHER of the following two options a) or b) (10 marks)

a) Musicianship Tests

Test 4: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 5: To identify any note C to G, played from C

Test 6: To hum, play or sing a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and to complete the phrase by adding one note

b) Own composition

Perform an own composition of about 16 bars in the style of a basic 8 beat. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a "question", a 4-bar phrase that forms an "answer", a repeat of the opening 4-bar phrase, and a second "answering" phrase

Grade 3 Drum Kit Playing

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play three pieces, one from each list:

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	3

List A

..... Ludwig Masters 10300111
 (No repeats/1st endings)
 p.10 Pride of Oklahoma; p.12 De Molay; p.50 Pace Maker;
 p.56 Cleveland Courier
Discovering Rock Drums Schott ED 13354
 pp.85–86 Yankee Doodle (demo chart)
Advanced Techniques for the Modern Drummer Chapin
 Solola, p.8
By Design CPP Media
 Slidin' By (rhythm chart)
Rhythm Section Drumming Musos Publications
 CORNIOLA, F.: Rhythmic Summary #4 or #5
Drum Kit Solo Pieces www.bcdrums.com
 CORRIN, B.: Solo 2
Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 2 Hal Leonard
 HL00699741
 (Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)
 Walk This Way
66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer Cherry Lane/Hal
 Leonard HL02501624
 HAPKE, T.: Solo 13
Drum Techniques of Led Zeppelin Alfred DF0013A
 (Main sections, no repeats)
 trans. J. Bergamini: Black Dog
**Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern
 Drummer** Alfred 00-17308
 REED, T.: 40 bar exercise, p.28 (p.27 in 1st edition)
 or
 48 bar exercise, p.29 (p.28 in 1st edition), with added hi-hat
 on 2 & 4

List B

The Beatles Drum Collection Hal Leonard HL00690402
 (Main sections, no repeats)
 Get Back
 Paperback Writer
Discovering Rock Drums Schott ED 13354
 CAMPBELL & PALMER.:pp.61–62 Eagle Eyes (demo chart)
Advanced Techniques for the Modern Drummer Solo
 Chapin
 CHAPIN, J.: 1b, p.15
Rhythm Section Drumming Musos Publications
 CORNIOLA, F.: Rhythmic Summary #6

Rudiments (10 marks)

From memory
 Single strokes in triplet form.
 Flam accent; double flamadiddle; triple flamadiddle; flamacue.
 11-, 13- and 15-stroke ruffs.
 Half drag; single drag; double drag; single drag
 paradiddle; single ratamacue;
 compound strokes.
 All technical work:
 Right or left hand start, as requested by the examiner.

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 2 Hal Leonard
 HL00699741

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)
 White Room – Cream

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 6 Hal Leonard
 HL00699746

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)
 Give It Away

Experience Hendrix Hal Leonard HL00672397

(Main sections, no repeats)

Purple Haze

Drum Techniques of Led Zeppelin Alfred DF0013A

(Main sections, no repeats)

trans. J. Bergamini.: Immigrant Song

Creative Drumming Made Simple AMPD

SLATER, D.: Old School

List C

Discovering Rock Drums Schott ED 13354

pp.40–41 Euro Avenue (demo chart)

Advanced Techniques for the Modern Drummer Chapin

CHAPIN, J.: Solo 1c, p.22

Deep Purple Greatest Hits Hal Leonard HL00672502

(Main sections, no repeats)

Strange Kind of Woman

Hal Leonard Drum Play-Along Vol. 2 Hal Leonard
 HL00699741

(Main sections, no section repeats; backing track optional)
 Come Together

66 Drum Solos for the Modern Drummer Cherry Lane/
 Hal Leonard HL02501624

HAPKE, T.: Solo 39

Experience Hendrix Hal Leonard HL00672397

(Main sections, no repeats)

Freedom

Metallica for Drums Cherry Lane/Hal Leonard HL02503509

(Main sections, no repeats)

Of Wolf and Man

**Progressive Steps to Bass Drum Technique for the
 Modern Drummer** Alfred 00-17315

REED, T.p.15

**Progressive Steps to Syncopation for the Modern
 Drummer** Alfred 00-17308

REED, T.: 28 bar exercise p.49

An own choice solo from the last 25 years.

**EITHER of the following two options a) or b) (10
 marks)**

a) Musicianship Tests

Test 7: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 or 3/4 time, 2 bars, played
 twice by the examiner and identify the time as 2/4 or 3/4

Test 8: To identify any note(s) in the chords of C, G, or F,
 played from the root note.

Test 9: To hum, sing or whistle a group of 5 or 6 notes
 played twice by the examiner, and then to complete the
 phrase by adding two or three notes.

b) Own composition

Perform an own composition in simple binary form in either
 a pop or simple jazz style. It should make use of basic
 fills.

Medal Examinations in Drum Kit Playing

Medal examinations offer candidates exam outside the constraints of the formal Grade structure. A higher pass mark (75%) is set and the result is either an award or no award. Successful candidates receive a certificate and report as with Grade exams, but also an application form to purchase a medal of good quality metal that can be engraved with the candidate's name, subject and the year. Medal exams do not qualify candidates for letters after their names.

Junior Bronze Medal

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	JBM

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any THREE of the pieces listed for Grade 3

Plus An own choice solo (20 marks)

suitable to the grade and not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Junior Silver Medal

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	JSM

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any THREE of the pieces listed for Grade 4

Plus An own choice solo (20 marks)

suitable to the grade and not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Bronze Medal

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	BM

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any THREE of the pieces listed for Grade 5

Plus, an own choice solo (20 marks)

suitable to the grade and not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Silver Medal

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	SM

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any THREE of the pieces listed for Grade 6

Plus, an own choice solo (20 marks)

suitable to the grade and not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

There are no Scales, Arpeggios, Musicianship Tests or Composition requirements at VCM Medal exams

Gold Medal

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	GM

Entry for the Gold Medal is restricted to those who have already passed the Silver Medal in Drum Kit Playing.

Performance (90 marks)

Candidates must present a balanced programme of their own choice of five solos. The programme must show a range of styles. The standard of difficulty should be suitable for this level of examination. The whole performance should take no longer than 20 minutes.

Introductions

The standard expected is that of an amateur performance at a live local charity show. Candidates should be able to introduce their programmes as to a live audience in an interesting and entertaining manner. Examiners will expect to be treated as an audience and addressed accordingly.

Deportment

Examiners will take into account general presentation of the pieces and deportment. Examiners will expect candidates to dress as if they are performing in a formal recital. A confident professional approach is looked for. Credit will be given for effort in presentation, but not for the quality or sophistication of the resources available to the candidate.

Paperwork

The candidate should present the examiner with a concert programme. It should include:

- A front cover showing the name of the candidate
- A list of the pieces performed
- Copies of the scores of the pieces performed (*photocopies are permitted but will be destroyed after the examination*)
- A short summary about the pieces performed

Discussion (10 marks)

The examiner will hold a brief interview with the candidate about the performance, the candidate's preferences and knowledge of the instrument and repertoire.

Platinum Medal

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		DR	PM

Entry for the Platinum Medal is restricted to those who have already passed the Gold Medal in Drum Kit Playing.

Performance (90 marks)

Candidates must present a balanced programme of their own choice of five pieces.

The pieces should include the following:

- A piece in a chosen jazz style
- A piece in a contemporary popular style
- A piece in compound time
- A piece with changing time signatures
- An own choice piece

Introductions, Deportment and Paperwork

The requirements are as for Gold Medal above.

Discussion (10 marks)

The examiner will hold a brief interview with the candidate about the performance, the candidate's preferences and knowledge of the instrument and repertoire.

Diplomas in Drum Kit Playing

Diploma in Drum Kit Playing DipVCM

Entry should be made on pink diploma entry form. This diploma is available to candidates of any age. Successful candidates receive a diploma and are entitled to wear the appropriate academical robes.

PAPERWORK

Candidates for DipVCM must pass Victoria College of Music Grade V Theory of Music before the Diploma certificate is awarded. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed GCSE or equivalent in Music may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

Performance (80 marks)

To play **Two Solos** drawn from the Associate lists. In the case of a major work only one movement is required.

To play **One Solo** drawn from the Grade 8 List

To Play **One Own Choice** piece of a suitable standard which may be an own composition.

Part Two Sight Reading (10 marks)

Candidates are required to perform and answer questions on an unseen test after a few moments perusal.

Discussion (10 marks)

The examiner will hold a brief interview with the candidate about the performance, the candidate's preferences and knowledge of the instrument and repertoire.

Associate Diploma in Drum Kit Playing AVCM

PAPERWORK

Candidates for AVCM must pass Victoria College of Music Grade V Theory of Music before the Diploma certificate is awarded. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed GCSE or equivalent in Music may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

Associate Diploma (AVCM) Syllabus I Performers Diploma

Solo Performance (80 marks)

An own choice programme of four Solo pieces of appropriate standard in a variety of styles demonstrating a wide range of technical and stylistic challenges. All Rock, Latin, Jazz, Commercial and Popular styles are acceptable as well as appropriate classical items. Three works should be accompanied either by live musicians or track minus drum parts.

The examiners are looking for creative and inventive performance that complements and enhances the ensemble in addition to providing a secure rhythmic foundation. A straight 'cover' approach will not provide opportunity to access the highest marks.

Sight Reading (10 marks)

A short solo passage in standard notation of 16 bars including a four-bar improvisation or A 16 bar improvisation in a style selected by the examiner from the prescribed list;

- Cha-Cha-Cha
- Shuffle
- Rhumba
- Samba
- Bossa Nova

Discussion (10 marks)

The examiner will hold a brief interview with the candidate about the performance, the candidate's preferences and knowledge of the instrument and repertoire.

Associate Diploma (A.V.C.M.(T.D.)) Syllabus II in Teaching of Drum Kit Playing

This is an initial Teaching Diploma for those with some experience of teaching at the lower grades and who intend to study further for teaching qualifications.

Candidates must submit with their entries ONE of the following:

1. A folio (see p. 4) showing work and notes for a 10- week term for one of these categories: **the young beginner; the teenage beginner; the adult beginner**

The folio should include lists of appropriate pieces, studies, books, websites, etc. appended as a bibliography.

2. A 25-minute video of them teaching a pupil of Grade 1 to 5 standard. The lesson should show work on at least one piece (approx. 15 minutes) and two other areas of the teacher's choice.

A numerical mark is not awarded for the above but written feedback and an "approved" or "not approved" assessment will be given.

Performing (40 marks)

One List A and One List B piece from AVCM Syllabus 1

Teaching (50 marks)

To perform and demonstrate/discuss the teaching of

ONE piece from Grade 1-3 List C

ONE piece from Grade 4-5 List C

to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

This section will include a Viva Voce discussion with the examiner on aspects of teaching, and any points from the Folio/DVD.

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Licentiate Diploma in Drum Kit Playing LVCM

PAPERWORK

Candidates for LVCM must pass Victoria College of Music Grade VI Theory of Music before the Diploma certificate is awarded. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed "A" Level or equivalent in Music may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

Licentiate Diploma (LVCM) Syllabus I Performers Diploma

Solo Performance (80 marks)

An own choice programme of four Solo pieces of appropriate standard in a variety of styles demonstrating a wide range of technical and stylistic challenges. All Rock, Latin, Jazz, Commercial and Popular styles are acceptable as well as appropriate classical items. Three works should be accompanied either by live musicians or track minus drum parts. One item should be an unaccompanied kit solo.

The examiners are looking for creative and inventive performance that complements and enhances the ensemble in addition to providing a secure rhythmic foundation. A straight 'cover' approach will not provide opportunity to access the highest marks.

Discussion (10 marks)

The examiner will hold a brief interview with the candidate about the performance, the candidate's preferences and knowledge of the instrument and repertoire.

Sight Reading (10 marks)

A short solo passage in standard notation of 32 bars including an eight-bar improvisation.
O R
A 32 bar improvisation in a style based upon an extract given to the candidate 20 minutes before the exam.

Licentiate Diploma (L.V.C.M.(T.D.)) Syllabus II in Teaching of Drum Kit Playing

This is an intermediate Teaching Diploma for those with experience of teaching at the higher grades and who intend to study further for teaching qualifications.

Candidates must submit with their entries ONE of the following:

1. An essay of 1500-2000 words on some aspect of Drum Kit teaching of their choice.

The essay should include reference to appropriate pieces, studies, books, websites, etc. and a bibliography.

2. A 30-minute video of the candidate teaching a pupil of at least Grade 6 standard. The lesson should show work on at least one piece (approx.20 minutes) and two other areas of the teacher's choice.

A numerical mark for the above is not awarded but written feedback and an "approved" or "not approved" assessment will be given.

Performing (40 marks)

One List A and One List B piece from LVCM Syllabus 1

Teaching (50 marks)

To perform and demonstrate/discuss the teaching of

ONE piece from Grade 6-7 List C

ONE piece from Grade 8 List C

to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

This section will include a Viva Voce discussion with the examiner on aspects of teaching, and any points from the Folio/DVD.

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Fellowship Diploma in Drum Kit Playing

Candidates for Fellowship must be Licentiates of the VCM in Drum Kit Playing or Percussion unless it has been agreed in advance in writing that this requirement can be waived by virtue of equivalent qualifications. There is no Theory requirement for the Fellowship examination.

Fellowship Diploma (FVCM) Syllabus I Performers Diploma

Performance (90 marks)

Candidates for this Fellowship Diploma are required to prepare and perform a concert recital of FIVE contrasting pieces of different genres and periods. The pieces can contain original material, own compositions, or arrangements of pieces adapted for the instrument.

Candidates should dress and behave as if performing to a large live audience.

The whole performance should not exceed 30 minutes.

Candidates must present to the examiner on the day of the exam a portfolio of the pieces offered at the practical exam which will include a concert programme, copies of the pieces performed and some factual information about the pieces submitted.

Discussion (10 marks)

The examiner will hold a brief interview with the candidate about the performance, the candidate's preferences and knowledge of the instrument and repertoire.

Fellowship Diploma (FVCM(TD)) Syllabus II Teachers Diploma

Candidates must submit with their entry a Dissertation or video as in the LVCM (TD) Syllabus, except the Dissertation must be 3500-5000 words in length (excluding topics set for AVCM(TD) or material already submitted for LVCM(TD), the video should be about 40 minutes in length, showing about 25 minutes work on a piece of at least DipVCM/AVCM Syllabuses 1 or 2 level, and about 15 minutes on two other aspects of Drum Kit Teaching..

Some suggested themes are shown below for guidance, but candidates are expected to consider a theme that reflects their interests and experience:

- Group teaching
- Special needs
- Exam preparation

The essay should include lists of appropriate pieces, studies, books etc appended as a bibliography. The examiner will discuss the dissertation with the candidate at the examination.

Performing (40 marks)

Candidates should prepare and play two pieces which they consider to be good teaching repertoire for the Drum Kit: one of Grade 5 or 6 standard; and one of Diploma standard or above. The pieces should be introduced as if to a class of students.

Teaching (50 marks)

This section will include a Viva Voce discussion with the examiner on the teaching of the pieces presented; also, on teaching of the instrument generally, points arising from the Dissertation/DVD.

Sight Reading (10 marks)

The examiner will discuss with the candidate such aspects of the unseen piece as tempo, phrasing, and marks of expression.

Diploma Repertoire List

Heslip, Gerald	Whose Kit Is This?		Kendor
Heslip, Gerald	Iguana Dance		Kendor
Holmquist, Joe	Any from numbers 11 to 19	Drum Set Etudes Book 2	Kjos
Holmquist, Joe	Any item.	Drum Set Etudes Book 3	Kjos
Houllif, Murray	Philly	Contemporary Drumset Solos	Kendor
Houllif, Murray	Samba-ly	Contemporary Drumset Solos	Kendor
Brubeck, Dave	Blue Ronda a la Turk		
Corea, Chick	Crystal Silence		
Desmond, Paul	Take Five		
Ellington, Duke	Don't Get Around Much Anymore		
Ellington, Duke	It Don't mean A Thing		
Ellington, Duke	I'm Beginning to See the Light		
Monk, Theolonius	Straight, No Chaser		
Cobham	Conundrum		Alfred
Garibaldi, Dave	Any item.	The Code of Funk	Hal Leonard
Dave Wecki Band	Any item.	In Session Play-Along Package	Fischer
Moore, Stanton	Any item.	Groove Alchemy	Hudson Music
Zorro	Any item.	The Commandments of RnB Drumming	Warner Bros.